



## Working Toward Providing Universal Access



### Entrance Fee Passes

Golden Access Passports and Golden Age Passports are lifetime entrance passes to most national parks, including Mount Rainier. They admit the pass holder and any accompanying passengers in a private vehicle at no charge. Where entry is not by private vehicle, the passes admit the pass holder, spouse, and children at no charge. The passport also provides a discount in federal campgrounds. Both Golden Access and Golden Age Passports must be obtained in person, and are available only to citizens or permanent residents of the United States.

The Golden Access Passport is available to persons who are blind or permanently disabled. At Mount Rainier, the passports are available at visitor center information desks and at the Longmire Museum.

The Golden Age Passport is available to persons who are 62 years old or older. They may be obtained at any park entrance station. Proof of age is required. There is a one time \$10 charge.

### Accommodations

Lodging is available within the park at two locations: at *Longmire*, in the National Park Inn (open year round, elevation 2761') and at *Paradise*, in the Paradise Inn (open late May to early October, elevation 5400'). Wheelchair accessible rooms are available on the main floors of both hotels. Both are non-smoking facilities. For reservations, call Mount Rainier Guest Services, Inc. at (360) 569-2275 Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### Meals

The dining room in the National Park Inn is fully accessible. The dining room at the Paradise Inn is wheelchair accessible by an outside walkway from the lobby.

The Jackson Grill, located in the Jackson Visitor Center at Paradise, is wheelchair accessible with help via steep paved ramps which lead from the parking area into the building. The Sunrise Lodge snack bar is accessible by ramp.

### Campgrounds

Golden Access and Golden Age Passports entitle the bearer to a discount on camping fees. Campgrounds that offer accessible sites are located at:

- *Sunshine Point*: SW entrance, elevation 2000', 18 total campsites, two accessible sites, accessible restroom
- *Cougar Rock*: SW entrance, elevation 3600', 200 total campsites, five family sites and two group sites accessible, accessible restrooms and amphitheater
- *Ohanapecosh*: SE entrance, elevation 1900', 205 total campsites, accessible sites under construction, accessible restroom located in Loop D, amphitheater accessible, nearby visitor center restrooms are accessible with help
- *White River*: NE entrance, elevation 4400', 117 total campsites, none built for accessibility at this time, accessible restrooms in Loop C

### Museum and Visitor Centers

At *Longmire*, the museum is accessible via paved ramp. Although the information desk is accessible, passages through the interior exhibits are narrow.

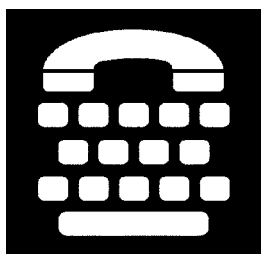
At *Paradise*, the Jackson Visitor Center is accessible with help during the summer via a steep paved ramp leading from the parking lot into the building. During winter, this ramp may be partially or fully



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snow covered. If it is fully snow covered, entry to the main floor of the visitor center is via a set of seven concrete exterior stairs, an interior hallway (with accessible restrooms), and another set of 17 stairs.

The information desk, Jackson Grill, indoor picnic area, gift shop, summer bookstore, and accessible restrooms are located on the main level. Exhibits are located on the second and third floors, and an observation deck is on the fourth floor. Upper levels of the building are accessible with help by a series of long steep ramps. Wheelchairs are available for loan at the information desk for use within the building. Large type scripts of audiovisual programs are available at the information desk, and some AV programs are open captioned.

At *Sunrise* and *Ohanapecosh*, both visitor centers are accessible by inclined walkways. Although doorways and passages are wide, assistance may be needed to cross the raised doorframe to enter the building at Sunrise. Wheelchairs are available on loan to use within the visitor centers. A large type script is available for the ecology exhibit at Ohanapecosh.

## Restrooms

Comfort stations located in hotels, campgrounds, visitor centers, and picnic areas, are either accessible or accessible with help. Assistants may enter restrooms designated for either gender.

## Picnic Areas

Picnic areas offering accessible tables and restrooms are located at:

- Sunshine Point
- Kautz Creek
- Cougar Rock
- Ohanapecosh

## Trails

At *Kautz Creek*, the Kautz Creek Trail is a very short fully accessible boardwalk that leads from the parking lot to a viewpoint of the creek and Mount Rainier. Signs along the boardwalk interpret local volcanic mudflow activity.

At *Longmire*, the Trail of the Shadows begins across from the hotel. The first 0.3 mile of the trail is fairly level, compact dirt, and is passable by wheelchairs with some help. Another 0.4 mile of the trail is rougher and narrower with uneven wooden bridges, tree roots intruding into the trail, and a soft dirt/mud surface. Interpretive signs along this 0.7 mile loop tell a story of early history and local ecology.

At *Longmire*, the Historic Walking Tour leads visitors along sidewalks and roadway edges past some of the most significant cultural resources in the park. Look for interpretive signs in front of several of the 54 historic buildings in this Historic Landmark District. Maps are available at the Museum.

At *Paradise*, active wheelchair users with assistants can reach the lower meadows by way of short, steep paved ramps starting from either the Paradise Plaza restrooms or from the main trailhead, where a shallow paved gutter must be crossed. From either location, follow the Skyline Trail east, past the Guide House and the Paradise Inn. At the Waterfall Tail junction you can either continue right, following the Skyline Trail for approximately one half mile to view meadows, Edith Creek Basin, and Mount Rainier; or continue left on the Waterfall Trail to its junction with the Alta Vista Trail. Turn left on the Alta Vista Trail to its junction with the Huckleberry Trail. Turn left on the Huckleberry Trail to

return to the start of your meadow loop. This last section of trail is steep.

It is *only* negotiable by adventurous people who have strong assistants! Upper trails are very steep with uneven surfaces. Benches are placed at intervals along trails.

At *Ohanapecosh*, a portion of the Hot Springs Loop trail is accessible to wheelchairs from Loop B of the campground. Further travel on the Silver Falls Trail to view the forest and Ohanapecosh River is possible, with assistance.

At *Sunrise*, the Emmons Vista Trail follows a compact dirt/gravel trail from the parking lot 0.5 mile to a spectacular view of Mount Rainier and the Emmons Glacier. Interpretive signs are posted at viewpoints along the trail.

Due to their age, most park buildings are less accessible than more modern ones. However, suggestions for ways we can improve access are helpful. Let us know!

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